

# Values, Mission, and Vision



## Core Values

Core Values are the foundational pillars of a congregation. They identify its DNA while also serving as the compass in guiding ministry endeavors. Core Values are not determined, they are a gift from God, discovered through prayerfully seeking His will for us. They therefore are the non-negotiable factors that are the life, and give life, to the congregation's ministry efforts.

The Core Values of Westview Church can be encompassed in one word - **R.E.A.L.**

The word 'real' itself accurately articulates the deep and organic impulses of this congregation. Those who call Westview home are given opportunity and space to interweave their own story into the overarching grand narrative of God's redeeming work in a way that is genuine, sincere and unpretentious. The majesty and messiness of life and faith are not shied away from, but undertaken with a resoluteness to share experiences, learnings, and growth.

The word 'real' used as an acronym succinctly summarizes the four pillars (Core Values) upon which Westview's life and ministry reside.

- **R**ooted in Scripture
- **E**ngaged in Mission
- **A**uthentic in Relationships
- **L**ifelong in Discipleship

## Mission

A mission statement articulates the 'why' an organization exists. It defines the all-encompassing future an organization is working toward. Mission statements paint an image of could be - what will be - when an organization has accomplished its purpose.

The mission of the Church is abundantly clear. Jesus told us what the Church is to be about. These are summarized in the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. Most church mission statements are somewhat similar or at least can be narrowed down to the basic principles of the Great Commandment and Great Commission.

At Westview Church, we articulate our mission using these words:

*Called to share the gospel and serve as the hands and feet of Christ*

At Westview, we believe that every ministry ought to point to the good news, the gospel of Jesus Christ. One of the primary ways we show our love for God and for others is by serving one another, serving those in our community, and serving our world. This is why our congregation exists.

## Vision

A vision statement summarizes the unique and specific purpose a church is given by God. It is a glimpse into God's preferred future, the 'rallying cry' of the congregation, the uniting objective toward which all efforts work. While mission articulates the universal and shared call of the Church, vision does not replace mission, but captures the distinctive ministry initiative given to a specific congregation. The vision statement itself is a

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short, memorable statement that allows easy retention for all. While time is spent carefully articulating this statement, it does not, nor cannot, tell the whole story. The purpose of this document is to articulate the thought behind Westview's Vision Statement.

Our Vision at Westview Church is:

## ***Creating space for self and community to find rest in Christ***

This vision is about helping ourselves and our community understand, appreciate, and accept that our true identity, our great purpose, our most fulfilling work is in Christ and in him alone. The one to whom all of us - in who we are and what we've done - point to. For it's in Christ that we are fully who God creates us to be.

This vision calls us to be ever reminded that Christ is our source of all things. That our identity, the fullest amount of who God has created us to be, is found in Christ. Our work as Westview Church will be to champion this message. To declare that we are all who God has intended us to be when we abide in Christ. To equip and challenge ourselves and one another to resist the urge of more and instead seek the one who sanctifies and satisfies. To abide abundantly into the gentle and humble presence of Jesus who promises us rest.